

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A stone cladding system including:
a plurality of stone cladding panels secured to a building structure to form a wall by mounting means engagable between the building structure and each panel,
mounting means for each cladding panel comprising a pair of cladding panel support rails, namely an upper rail and a lower rail,
means for mounting said rails in a substantially horizontal orientation and vertically spaced-apart on the building structure, the rails being mounted upon a plurality of spaced-apart vertical mullions having associated anchor means for supporting the mullions in an upright orientation on the building structure,
each mullion having laterally extending supports on opposite sides of the mullion for engaging and supporting insulation panels between adjacent pairs of mullions in use.
a bottom of the cladding panel engaging and seating on the lower rail,
one or more retaining clips being provided for securing the top of the cladding panel to the upper rail,
each retaining clip having an inner end and an outer end, said inner end of the clip being adapted for snap engagement with the upper rail, and said outer end of the clip having a retaining arm engagable within a slot extending along a top edge of the cladding panel.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A stone cladding system as claimed in claim 1 ~~claim 2~~ wherein the supports include a pair of fins which project outwardly at opposite sides of the mullion.
4. (Original) A stone cladding system as claimed in claim 3 wherein the fins are mounted intermediate a front outer end and a rear inner end of the mullion.
5. (Original) A stone cladding system as claimed in claim 3 wherein the fins extend between a top and a bottom of the mullion.
6. (Original) A stone cladding system as claimed in claim 3 wherein ribs project outwardly of the side of the mullion spaced-apart from each fin, forwardly of the fin, to define with an inner end of the fin a seal retaining channel on the mullion.
7. (Currently amended) A stone cladding system including: as claimed in claim 1 ~~as claimed in claim 1~~ wherein

a plurality of stone cladding panels secured to a building structure to form a wall by mounting means engagable between the building structure and each panel,

mounting means for each cladding panel comprising a pair of cladding panel support rails, namely an upper rail and a lower rail,

means for mounting said rails in a substantially horizontal orientation and vertically spaced-apart on the building structure, the rails being mounted upon a plurality of spaced-apart vertical mullions having associated anchor means for supporting the mullions in an upright orientation on the building structure,

each mullion having a pair of re-entrant slots adjacent the inner end of the mullion and extending between a top and a bottom of the mullion at opposite sides of the

Amendment filed November 9, 2005

Responsive to Office Action dated May 12, 2005

mullion, each of said slots for sliding reception of an associated mullion nut bar which co-operates with a complementary anchor nut bar and lock nut for clamping engagement of the anchor means between said nut bars;

a bottom of the cladding panel engaging and seating on the lower rail,

one or more retaining clips being provided for securing the top of the cladding panel to the upper rail,

each retaining clip having an inner end and an outer end, said inner end of the clip being adapted for snap engagement with the upper rail, and said outer end of the clip having a retaining arm engagable within a slot extending along a top edge of the cladding panel.

Claims 8-21 (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) A stone cladding system including:

a plurality of stone cladding panels secured to a building structure to form a wall by mounting means engagable between the building structure and each panel,

mounting means for each cladding panel comprising a pair of cladding panel support rails, namely an upper rail and a lower rail,

means for mounting said rails in a substantially horizontal orientation and vertically spaced-apart on the building structure, the rails being mounted upon a plurality of spaced-apart vertical mullions having associated anchor means for supporting the mullions in an upright orientation on the building structure,

each mullion having laterally extending supports on opposite sides of the mullion for engaging and supporting insulation panels between adjacent pairs of mullions in use,

Application No.: 10/073,943
Amendment filed November 9, 2005
Responsive to Office Action dated May 12, 2005

Docket No.: 1817-0122P

a bottom of the cladding panel engaging and seating on the lower rail,
one or more retaining clips being provided for securing the top of the cladding
panel to the upper rail.